

LVIII.—On a new Variety of *Acanthodactylus boskianus*, Daud., from the Euphrates. By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

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I AM indebted to my son, Capt. C. L. Boulenger, for examples of a lizard, referable to *Acanthodactylus boskianus*, caught by himself and Capt. Harrison at Ramadieh on the Euphrates front in 1918, that are of special interest not only as extending the known range of a widely distributed species (Syria, Arabia, North Africa, and the Soudan), but as differing from all other specimens, of which I have examined about two hundred, by a character to which a great importance was formerly attached in distinguishing the species of *Acanthodactylus* and *Eremias*: in 7 out of the 8 specimens collected, the subocular borders the mouth instead of its lower edge forming an angle wedged in between the fourth and fifth or fifth and sixth upper labials; otherwise they agree with the typical form, the *Lacerta boskiana* of Daudin, in the number of scales (38 to 43 across middle of body, 14 or 16 between hind limbs) and of femoral pores (23 to 27 on each side*). The scales round the base of the tail are more numerous (23 to 27 in the fourth or fifth whorl, instead of 18 to 22). The first supraocular shield is divided into 2 or 3 parts, and in four of the specimens there is an agygos shield between the prefrontals. There is nothing special to note concerning the coloration, except the absence of a light vertebral streak; the young has 4 white streaks on the upper surface of the body, 6 on the nape, and one on each side, separated by broader black streaks, each of which may bear a series of round white spots.

The largest male measures 81 mm. from snout to vent, the largest female 80.

The condition of the subocular shield points to this form, which I propose to call var. *euphraticus*, being the nearest to the hypothetical primitive *Acanthodactylus*, according to the views expressed by me in recent papers dealing with the evolution of the Lacertidæ. The three forms into which *A. boskianus* may be divided, although not sharply definable, constitute a highly suggestive gradational series:—

1. Var. *euphraticus* (Euphrates). Subocular usually bordering the mouth; 38 to 43 scales across middle of body,

* In one of the males there are 2-3 additional pores, forming a second series behind the other at the distal end of the thigh.

14 to 16 between the hind limbs ; 23 to 27 femoral pores on each side.

2. Forma *typica* (N. Egypt). Subocular not bordering the mouth ; 34 to 52 (usually 38 to 43) scales across middle of body, 10 to 16 between the hind limbs ; 21 to 31 (usually 22 to 28) femoral pores on each side.

3. Var. *asper* (Palestine, Arabia, Saharan region and Soudan). Subocular not bordering the mouth, 23 to 38 (usually 25 to 35) scales across middle of body, 8 to 14 between the hind limbs ; 15 to 27 (usually 17 to 24) femoral pores on each side.

LIX.—Notes on the Ichneumonidæ in the British Museum.—I. By ROWLAND E. TURNER, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

Subfamily PIMPLINÆ.

Tribe PIMPLINI.

Certonotus tasmaniensis, sp. n.

♀. Brunneo-ferruginea ; mandibulis nigris, antennis 40-articulatis, articulis 29–38 pallide flavis ; clypeo, labro, facie lateribus late, orbitis, mesonoto macula utrinque antice maculaque magna quadrata post medium, tegulis basi, mesopleuris fascia sub tegulis macula antice, fascia angusta margine postico, maculaque angulis inferioribus posticis, scutello apice lateribusque, postscutello lateribus, segmento mediano apice late, tergitis 1–6 fascia angusta apicali, coxis apice, trochanteribus, femoribus apice, tibiis apice, tibiis posticis basi anguste, tarsisque anticis flavis ; tarsis intermediis posticisque tibiisque posticis in medio nigris ; alis subhyalinis, iridescentibus, venis fuscis ; terebra valvulisque nigris. Long. 17 mm. ; terebræ long. 17 mm. ; antennarum long 12 mm.

♀. Clypeus very short, transverse ; eyes separated from the base of the mandibles by a distance scarcely equal to half the length of the scape. Face finely and shallowly punctured, with a few delicate transverse striæ below the base of the antennæ and a groove along the inner margin of the eyes ; front microscopically punctured ; vertex smooth and shining. Pronotum not produced at the angles ; mesonotum irregularly and coarsely transversely striated, with a well-marked longitudinal lateral groove on each side ; scutellum finely punctured ; mesopleuræ shining, finely and sparsely punctured, smooth in the middle. Median segment smooth and shining,